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PRAVDA ARTICLE ON TRIAL OF GERALD BROOKE

Moscow PRAVDA 23 July 1965--A

(Article by B. Aleksandrov and K. Raspevov: "Mr. Brooke's Trip Was a Failure")

(Text) On 22 July a public trial began in Moscow in the criminal case of British subject Gerald Brooke, who has been charged with subversive anti-Soviet activities. A panel for criminal cases of the Moscow City Court is hearing Brooke's case. The panel consists of L.E. Almazov, chairman of the criminal cases panel of the Moscow City Court as court president, people's assessors V.I. Obraztsov and P.I. Popov, and B.G. Khodyrev, court secretary.

Charges for the state are being presented by Senior Assistant to the USSR Prosecutor General, State Justice Counsellor Second Class G.A. Terekov. Lawyer N.K. Borovik of the Moscow City Lawyers' Board is acting for the defense. Representatives of the Moscow working people and Soviet and foreign correspondents are present in the court hall.

According to the charges, on 25 April 1965 British subject Gerald Brooke was arrested redhanded by state security organs in Moscow and was brought to criminal court for subversive anti-Soviet activity, a crime specified by Part One, Sect. 70 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

After announcement of the charge, the court president asked defendant Brooke whether or not he pleaded guilty on the charge made against him. Defendant Brooke replied: "Yes, I plead guilty entirely and completely."

The defendant was interrogated during the evening session. He admitted that he was aware of the criminal nature of the task assigned to him. The trial continues.

Evidently Mr. Brooke had a solid reputation among his colleagues; he had a Bachelor's degree in Russian language and literature. After graduating from the Slavic department of London University Brooke became a teacher at Holborn College in London. Mr. Brooke is a member of the Labor Party.

When, this April, Brooke went to Moscow at the head of a group of college students who are studying Russian, few people would have assumed that he would stay in the Soviet Union for a long time. But after only a few days he was arrested by state security organ workers in the apartment of Muscovite Konstantinov. Workers of the State Security Committee, entering the room in which Konstantinov and Brooke and his wife Barbara were, saw that the red leather binding of an album with postcards of movie stars which Brooke had brought with him was torn up. Anti-Soviet literature, rubber printing plates, a long list of addresses of Soviet and foreign citizens, and instructions for receiving and deciphering coded radio messages were contained in the cover under the red leather. All this was intended for Konstantinov. The nature of the "souvenirs" from London between the double bottoms of the toilet case proved to be of the same type.

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